

**REMARKS**

In the Non-final Office Action mailed on October 6, 2005, the Examiner:

allowed claims 1-23, 66, 69, 70, and 73;  
objected to the specification;  
objected to claims 40-42, 44, 50-51, and 63-64; and  
rejected claims 24-39, 43, 45-49, 52-62, 65, 67-68, 71-72, and 74-75.

In this response:

specification is amended;  
claims 24, 41-42, 53, and 59 are amended;  
claims 40, 63, 67-68, 71-72, and 74 are cancelled; and  
claims 1-39, 41-62, 64-66, 69-70, 73 and 75 are pending.

For the reasons set forth in detail below, applicant submits that the present application, including each of the pending claims is in condition for allowance.

**Objection to Specification**

The Examiner objected to the specification for a spelling mistake in paragraph 52 on page 25 and for incorporation of improper references to the application, because on pages 1 through 3 the application has failed to provide the Application Serial Numbers or Patent Numbers of the references. The undersigned has hereby corrected the spelling mistake and has amended the "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(s)" section of the specification starting from page 1 through page 3 and has added the Application Serial Numbers and/or Patent Numbers of the references. Therefore, the undersigned respectfully requests the withdrawal of this objection.

**(Allowable Subject Matter) Objection to Claims 40-42, 44, 50-51, and 63-64**

The Examiner objected to claims 40-42, 44, 50-51, and 63-64 as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The undersigned has hereby amended the independent base claims 24 and 59 to add all the limitations of the objected dependent claims 40 and 63; has cancelled claims 40 and 63; and has amended claims 41, 42, and 53 to depend from claim 24. Therefore, the amended independent base claims 24 and 59 are in condition for allowance and accordingly their dependent claims 25-39, 41-58, 60-62, 64, and 75, which include the features of the independent claims 24 and 59, are also in condition for allowance.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102, and § 103 of Claims 24-39, 43, 45-49, 52-62, 65, 67-68, 71-72, and 74-75**

The Examiner rejected claims 59-62 and 64 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bernstein et al. (US Pat. No. 5,247,516).

The Examiner rejected claims 24-29, 32-39, 43, 45-49, 52-58, 67-68, 71-72, and 74-75 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. (US Pat. No. 5,247,516) in view of Dietz et al. (US Pat. No. 6,651,099).

The Examiner rejected claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. (US Pat. No. 5,247,516) and Dietz et al. (US Pat. No. 6,651,099) as applied to claim 24 and further in view of Hardwick et al. (US Pat. No. 5,550,816).

The Examiner rejected claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. (US Pat. No. 5,247,516) and Dietz et al. (US Pat. No. 6,651,099) as applied to claim 24 and further in view of Pettey (Pub. No. US 2003/0014544).

Claims 67-68, 71-72, and 74 have been cancelled, which renders the rejections of these claims moot and, as mentioned above, independent base claims 24 and 59 have been amended to include all the limitations by which they will become allowable. Therefore, the amended independent base claims 24 and 59 and their dependent claims 25-39, 41-58, 60-62, 64, and 75, which include the features of the independent base claims 24 and 59 are all in condition for allowance.

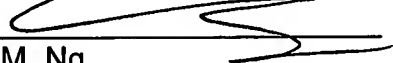
### **Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, all of the claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance and, therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-6488.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 030048039US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: 11/18/05

Respectfully submitted,

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